

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01972 121510Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 /021 W
-----021575 121514Z /53

O R 121211Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO USINSV WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC 6086

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1972

FOR IOP/M

FOR IBS/PA, PASS IPS

STATE FOR AF/E AND AF/S

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: -
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

PRESS ATTACKS ON REVEREND NDABANINGI SITHOLE, THE RHODESIAN
NATIONALIST WHO RETURNED TO HIS COUNTRY AFTER TWO YEARS IN EXILE
CONTINUES IN THE LOCAL PRESS HERE.

"THE TREACHEROUS ACTIONHXF THEWJEVEREND NDABANINGI SITHOLE TO
DENOUNCE THE ARMED STRUGGLE NOW BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE PATRIOTIC
FRONT SHOULD NOT COME AS A SURPRISE TO THOSE WHO HAVE FOLLOWED THE
POLITICAL CAREER OF THIS MAN, " SAYS AN EDITORIAL IN THE GOVERNMENT-
OWNED ZAMBIA DAILY .

THE NEWSPAPER, WHICH USUALLY REFLECTS GOVERNMENT THINKING, SAYS
THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME MR. SITHOLE HAS CROSSED ONTO THE OTHER
SIDE WHEN HE BELIEVED THE TIME WAS RIPE FOR "SOME FAT POLITICAL
PICKINGS."

THIS IS ALSO NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT THE BLACK NATIONALIST, WHO
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 01972 121510Z

HAS RENOUNCED THE LIBERATION WAR IN FAVOR OF A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT,R
HAS "DELIBERATELY" EMBARKED ON A COURSE HE KNEW WOULD BRING
DIVISIONS AMONG THE BLACK PEOPLE OF RHODESIA HE HAS ALL ALONG
CLAIMED TO LEW, CLAIMS THE MAIL EDITORIAL.

ACCORDING TO THE MAIL, WHEN HE BROKE AWAY FROM THE ZIMBABWE
AFRICAN PEOPLE'S UNION (ZAPU) TO FORM THE ZIMBABWE UJRICAN NATIONAL

UNION (ZANU), ZAPU HAS SUCCEEDED TO UNITE THE PEOPLE OF THAT COUNTRY TO THE EXTENT THAT "FREEDOM WAS JUST AROUND THE CORNER."

"THE PEOPLE OF RHODESIA HAVE NOT YET SHAKEN OFF THE DEVASTATING AFTER EFFECTS OF THAT DIVISIVE ACTION OF SITHOLE, AND THE PRESENT PROBLEMS HE HAS CREATED STEM FROM THAT ACT." EDITORIALIZES THE PAPER.

EVEN WHEN MR. SITHOLE WAS IN ZANU, SAYS THE MAIL, HE MADE IT CLEAR HE WOULD BE THERE ONLY AS A LEADER. WHEN HIS OWN EXECUTIVE "DISCARDED HIM" AFTER IT BELATEDLY LEARNED THAT HE "WAS PLAYING SELL-OUT GAMES WITH RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH" FROM HIS PRISON CELL, MR. SITHOLE WENT AHEAD "UNDAUNTED TO BARGAIN HIS FREEDOM IN EXCHANGE FOR THE DENUNCIATION OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND HIS OWN PEOPLE."

SAYS THE MAIL: "IF THE FRONTLINE STATES HAD NOT RESCUED HIM IN TIME, SITHOLE, WOULD BY NOW BE ON THE RHODESIAN FRONT BENCHES IN PARLIAMENT AFTER HE HAD ASSURED SMITH HE WOULD DENOUNCE HIS COLLEAGUES IF SMITH DROPPED THE CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST HIM."

IN THE OPINION OF THE PAPER, THE DECISION BY THE OAU, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND THE FRONTLINE STATES TO HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THE REVEREND SITHOLE "WAS THE BEST THING THEY DID FOR RHODESIA," AND WHICH BROUGHT "DARKER SELL-OUT SIDE OF MR. SITHOLE IN THE OPEN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 01972 121510Z

TO THE EXTENT THAT HE CAN NO LONGER CHEAT ANYBODY."

IT IS GOOD, ACCORDING TO THE MAIL, THAT THE WORLD NOW KNOWS SITHOLE IS A MAN WHO CAN SACRIFICE THE FREEDOM AND LONG-TERM INTERESTS OF HIS OWN PEOPLE IN ORDER TO SECURE HIS OWN FREEDOM AND HIS SHORTLIVED GLORY."

THE EDITORIAL IMPORED THE PEOPLE OF RHODESIA TO UNDERSTAND THAT MR. SITHOLE IS OF CONSEQUENCE ONLY IN SO FAR AS HE PLAYS THE ROLE OF DELAYING INDEPENDENCE IN THAT COUNTRY "BY A FEW WEEKS OR MONTHS."

O

MR. SMITH, SAYS THE MAIL, WILL TRY TO USE MR. SITHOLE TO ACCEPT THOSE ASPECTS OF THE CONSTITUTION WHICH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WILL REJECT OUTRIGHT.

TO PAPER HAD THESE WORDS FOR THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT: "WHAT WE CONSIDER SHOULD KEEP THE BRITISH BUSY ARE THE TRUE INTENTIONS OF SMITH OVER SITHOLE. SMITH HAS GONE TO LENGTHS TO BUY SITHOLE.

SMITH BTES NOT SPEND HIS TIME AND MONEY ON PEOPLE LIKE SITHOLE
FOR NOTHING."

ON THE OTHER HAND, SMITH HAS BEEN "PRETENDING TO BE BUSY
NEGOTIATING WITH THE SO-CALLED ANGLO-AMERICAN TEAM" -- "AND HE DOES
THIS WHEN HE HAS BEEN WOOING SITHOLE TO DO A DEAL WIKHHEIM OVER
THE MUCH VAUNTED INTERNAL SETTLEMENT."

IT IS THE VIEW OF THE MAIL THAT SOMEONE MUST BE CHEATPTG SOMEBODY
-- "AND IF PAST RECORDS ARE ANYTHING TO GO BY, IT CAN ONLY
BE SMITH."

"IF THE ANGLO-AMEGCCAN TEAM HAS NOT YET GOT THE MESSAGE, THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 LUSAKA 01972 121510Z

FREEDOM OF ZIMBABWE WILL ONLY COME FROM THE BARRELS OF THE GUN
AND THIS IS WHAT THE SMITH-SITHOLE DEAL IS ALL ABOUT," THE
EDITORIAL SAYS.

CONCLUDES THE NEWSPAPER: "AS FOR THE REVEREND NDABANINGI SITHOLE,
SOMEBODY SHOULD TELL HIM THAT ONE OF THE LIKES OF HIM BEFORE HIM,
MR. VIDKUN
QUISLING FINALLY FACED THE FIRING SQUAD AS A TRAITOR
WHEN NORWAY HAD GOT RID OF HITLER'S ARMY TO WHOM QUISLING SOLD
HIS PEOPLE IN EXCHANGE FOR A FEW MISERABLE KRONERS.
BU
DS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, LIBERATION FRONTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LUSAKA01972
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770247-0681
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770767/aaaacgkf.tel
Line Count: 148
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a60de76c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1891077
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTION PRESS ATTACKS ON REVEREND NDABANINGI STITHOLE, THE RHODESIAN NATIONALIST WHO RETURNED TO HIS COUNTRY AFTER TWO
TAGS: PINT, ZA, (SITHOLE, NDABANINGI)
To: USINSV STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a60de76c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009